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California State Senate

SENATOR
JEFF DENHAM

TWELFTH SENATE DISTRICT

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May 15, 2006

Office of the Secretary of the Regents
1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607

Dear Regents of the University of California,

I am contacting you to reiterate the need for your Board to remove Robert Dynes as UC President. Given the devastating findings of the recent audits, a change in leadership is the only course of action that will be sufficient for UC students, employees, and California taxpayers.

Both the PricewaterhouseCoopers audit and the State audit found that problems in the UC compensation system were not an aberration; they were widespread. As President, it was Dynes' responsibility to see that University policies and open-meeting laws were being followed. As I have said before, either he knew these actions were taking place and allowed them to happen, or he was oblivious to the University's compensation practices. Both are unacceptable for the President of the University of California. I strongly believe at this point that firing Dynes will be in the best interest of the University. I would also like to add that Dynes should be fired for cause, without a severance package. Moreover, any compensation package offered to a new President should be made public well before your Board approves it.

President Dynes has made impressive statements about his plans to improve this situation. His actions since this scandal began, however, fall short. Under direct questioning from me during a Senate Education Committee Hearing in February, Dynes misinformed the committee by stating that UC executives had not received any salary increases over the past three years when in fact, a salary increase went into effect last October. Just one week after this testimony, he approved a loan of \$832,500 for his administrative adviser, Linda Williams, as yet another exception to policy. The State audit revealed that UC San Diego Vice Chancellor Ed Holmes has received far more compensation since 2001 than UC policy would allow for and yet, the President's office believes this exception to policy should continue.

Dynes has been a good cheerleader for the University, and in particular I appreciate his efforts to promote agricultural research, an issue very important to me. However, the UC system must be led by someone with a fresh perspective and a willingness to say 'NO' to the UC executives and their never-ending salary demands.

REPRESENTING MADERA, MERCED, MONTEREY, SAN BENITO AND STANISLAUS COUNTIES

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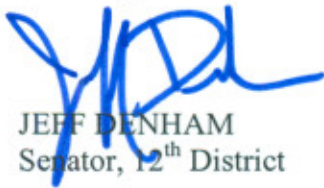
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While two of my colleagues have called for Dynes' resignation, he has made it clear that he has no plans to step down voluntarily. I ask you as you convene this week to recognize that President Dynes is not capable of effectively changing the UC compensation system, and not deserving of that opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'JD', is written over the printed name and title.

JEFF DENHAM
Senator, 12th District